

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Ted Stewart Executive Director Lowell P. Braxton Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 PO Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-7223 (TDD)

April 15, 1998

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED No. P 540 714 047

Charles S. Searle Senior Vice President Colorado National Bank 950 Seventeenth Street Denver, Colorado 80202

Re:

Approval of Surety Reduction, Letter of Credit No. A-5380, USMX of Utah Inc./Dakota Mining Corporation, Gold Strike Mine, M/053/005, Washington County, Utah

Dear Mr. Searle:

On October 23, 1997 we sent you a letter (copy attached) authorizing a \$738,100 reduction in the amount of reclamation surety being held for the Goldstrike Mine in Washington County, Utah. As you know, your banking institution has issued a \$867,300 Letter of Credit (No. A-5380) and a \$800,000 Certificate of Deposit (No. 3 943 1039 2474) for this mining project. Our October 23, 1997 letter authorized you to reduce the Letter of Credit balance to \$129,200. We asked you to inform us how you wanted to implement this surety reduction at your earliest convenience. Over five (5) months have passed and we have not received your reply. Thus, we now request an immediate response.

We ask that you notify us within seven days of your receipt of this letter how you wish to resolve this matter. If we do not hear from you by April 24, 1998 we will assume that the existing \$867,300 LOC will remain in effect and our previous authorization of a reduction in the LOC amount by Colorado National Bank will be rescinded.

Please contact me at (801) 538-5286 if you have any questions or concerns in this regard.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg Permit Supervisor

Minerals Reclamation Program

vb

Attachment

cc:

Larry Gore, BLM, Dixie RA Joe G. Kircher, Dakota Mining Mary Ann Wright, DOGM

N:\M053005.CNB

From: Larry Gore <lgore@az.b To: NRDOMAIN.NROGM(WHEDBER Date: 4/22/98 1:49pm

Subject: Results of Dakota Mines/USMX of Utah Conference Call -

I just got back from the inspection of Goldstrike, so I will be typing up and sending a full inspection report tomorrow probably. However, the conclusion both Wayne Thomas (DEQ) and I reached is there is no emergency on the site at this time.

They have approximately 4 million gallons of storage available, and pad #2 is draining at less than 50,000 gallons per day and decreasing. With no significant precipitation, it would require over two months of draindown to fill the ponds with no pumping.

Pad #1 is draining directly to the sediment ponds in the Hamburg Pit.

Pad #2 runoff is approximately 1 - 1.5 million gallons for each inch of precipitation, so a 3 to 4 inch storm event would fill the storage capacity. Might check with climatic data and see what the potential for storm (s) that big is this time of year.

Something to consider is the timing of operations to allow the reshaping and soiling work to be completed this fall. Doug estimates it will take about a month to construct the attenuation gallary, over 6 weeks to reshape pad #2 and another 3 to 4 weeks to resoil it. This work needs to be completed prior to the end of September, when it gets to wet to work the topsoil. Therefore work needs to start within a month from now.

m/053/005

TYYM JR M/053/005	
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OF

OIL GAS & MINING

594 W NORTH TEMPLE STE 1210

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### 540 714 047

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Form 3800, June 1985

Sd

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